Solid Waste Management Planning in New Jersey



Our Past...



Our Present...

Our Hope for the Future...







State Demographics

- Most densely populated state with 1,179 persons/square mile
- Population (2000) 8.4 million people
- Anticipated population (2025) is 9.5 million people
- In 2003, NJ residents generated5.48 lbs./person/day of solid waste

The Problem

- Solid waste generation has been increasing steadily in recent years
- In 2003, New Jersey generated 19 million tons of solid waste



Solid Waste Management

- 578 landfills in NJ
 - 12 in operation the rest are closed
- Landfills manage 42% of NJ waste
- Incinerators manage 17% of NJ waste
- The remainder (41%) is transported out of state



Background

- Solid Waste Management Act passed in 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq.)
- Created solid waste management districts
- Required development of county SWM plans
- *Recycling Act* passed in 1987 (N.J.S.A. 13:1E-99.11 et seq.)
- Statewide recycling goals:
 - 50% MSW, 60% TSW by 1996

State Plan Basics

Solid Waste Hierarchy

- + Education and outreach programs
- + Improved enforcement & compliance assistance

- = Effective/efficient management of NJ's solid waste!
- = Statewide compliance with recycling mandates!

SWM Plan Elements

- Holistic approach to solid waste management (SWM)
- Promote "sustainable landfills"
- Ensure proper closure of all landfills; encourage appropriate brownfields redevelopment
 - Including opportunities for open space and recreational use

SWM Plan Elements

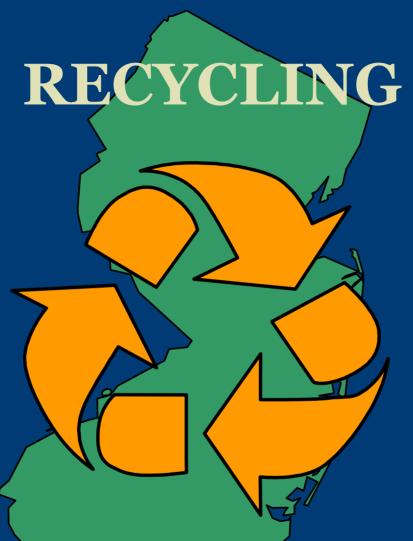
- Decrease mercury contamination & reduce mercury emissions
- Scrap tire management funding through P.L. 2004, c. 46
- Updated sewage sludge strategy to include alternate uses

"Recommended" Legislative Initiatives

- Establish a Waste Generation Surcharge to provide dedicated source of funding
- Reduce/eliminate nonessential uses of mercury
- Adopt updates to Toxics in Packaging Reduction Act
- Require financing, collection and recycling plans from manufacturers for consumer electronics recycling

Counties, Municipalities and NJDEP Joint Responsibilities

- Collaborative Discussion
 - Address future disposal issues due to increasing solid waste generation trends and/or catastrophic events
- Capacity analysis after loss of waste flow
- Educate, Educate, Educate...
 - on every individual's need to actively participate in waste minimization and recycling



Time for us ALL to take the next step!

Recycling Snapshot

- Recycling all-time highs:
 - 1995 45% MSW
 - 1997 61% TSW
- 2003 Recycling rate:
 - 33% MSW, 52% TSW
- Decrease of 27% MSW (1995-2003)

LET'S REINVIGORATE RECYCLING!

Why did our rate decrease?



- Lack of local enforcement
- Loss of dedicated funding
- Lack of repeated outreach and education
- Increased away-fromhome consumption
- Changing composition of waste
- Loss of flow control; lower disposal fees

The Shortfall

- To reach our 50%MSW recycling goal:
 - 1,700,000 additional tons MSW must be recycled

(based on 2003 data)







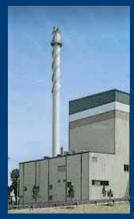
If we don't recycle 1,700,000 tons, its disposal will require:





3.5 incinerators





OR ...





4.5 landfills







Environmental Benefits of Recycling in NJ (2003)

- Conserves Natural Resources
 - Over 3 million tons of iron, coal, and limestone saved by recycling scrap metal
 - 9.6 million trees saved as a result of paper recycling programs

Environmental Benefits of Recycling in NJ (2003)

- Conserves Energy
 - 86 trillion BTU's saved = 700 million gallons of gas
- Reduces air and water pollution
 - Emissions reductions equivalent to 134,970 metric tons air and water pollutants
 - Green House Gas emissions associated with global warming greatly reduced

www.nerc.org

Economic Benefits of Recycling in NJ (2003)



- Well-developed industry in NJ
- 27,000+ jobs and 2,000+ businesses
 - At 50% MSW, an additional 7,000 jobs would be generated
- Over \$5.9 billion in annual sales
 - Even higher in 2005 due to increased scrap metal values

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- Promote Source Reduction and Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT)
 - If available, provide startup funding to local governments implementing PAYT
- Conduct "Enforcement Sweeps" to ensure mandatory recycling requirements are being met

- Training programs with the NJ Association of School Business Administrators
- NJ Transit recycling participation and compliance
- Status of recycling at NJ colleges & universities, as per Green House Gas reduction MOU

- Solid Waste Services Tax
 - Consider withholding funds from nonperforming counties
 - Consider withholding other environmental funding (i.e. Green Acres)

- Assist with training for cost-effective local education/outreach programs
- Multi-faceted statewide communications and outreach campaign
 - County-hosted forums (such as today's)
 - Focus on small businesses and multi-family housing
 - Multilingual materials
 - Add additional phases if stable funding source established

- Continue to address recycling at public places, specifically single-serve beverage containers
 - Utilize Cumberland Farms leadership
 - Focus on fitness centers, athletic complexes, public parks
- Develop waste audit educational program for business; post on web

- Regulatory reform reconcile outdated regulatory structure with the changing SW market; consider phase-out of tipping fee regulation
- SW capacity planning as it relates to NJ air emissions and traffic congestion
- Consider the emerging problem of rail transfer facilities and environmental protection

County Recycling Initiatives

- Update county SWM plans to include additional mandated recyclables
- Develop education and enforcement plans
 - Focus on small business, multifamily housing, schools and recreational complexes
- Encourage Source Reduction
 - Promote home composting and PAYT
 - Promote onsite food waste composting at institutions

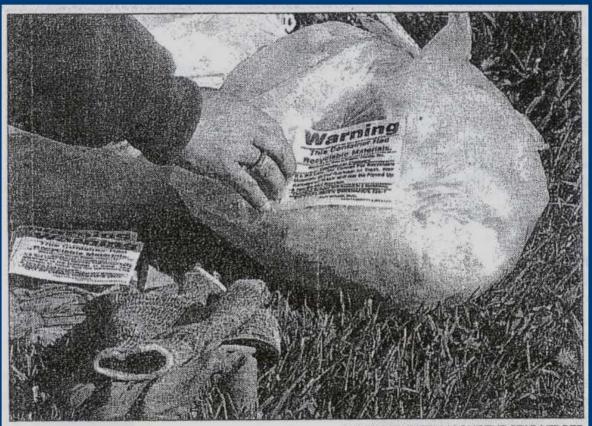
Municipal Recycling Initiatives

- With DCA, revise master plans
 - Provisions for recycling at new strip malls, offices, schools, multifamily housing and recreational complexes
- Update local ordinances to reflect County Plans
- Develop education and enforcement plans
 - Focus on small businesses, multifamily housing and schools

Linden looks to lose some (trash)

Workers hit streets to keep recyclables out of dump

weight



PHOTOS BY PATTI SAPONE/THE STAR-LEDGER

Inspector Laura Sasarak places a warning sticker on a bag of trash to notify the residents they have violated the recycling law.











What YOU Can Do

- ✓ Purchase items in bulk and in recyclable packaging
- Avoid products in hard-to-recycle packaging
- ✓ Make two-sided copies, save scrap paper for notes
- ✓ Bring canvas bags to the grocery store
- ✓ Stop Junk Mail at <u>www.the-dma.org</u>
- Use durable products designed for multiple uses
- ✓ Bring a travel coffee mug with you instead of using disposable ones --- and get discounts!
- Know what materials are recyclable where you live
- Start a compost pile, mulch your lawn clippings
- Bring recyclables home if you don't see recycling bins
- ✓ Volunteer at cleanup events and plantings with Clean Communities and other groups

We Want Your Input

Written and e-mail comments may be submitted by July 15, 2005 to:

Robert Goodwin

Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste

Bureau of Recycling and Planning

401 East State Street

Trenton, NJ 08625

P.O. Box 414

E-mail: Robert.Goodwin@dep.state.nj.us

Thank You!

NJDEP
Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste

